



Minutes of the Legatus Group Meeting

4 September 2020

Quorn Town Hall Quorn

1.0 Meeting Preliminaries

Present

Board members: Mayor Peter Matthey OAM – Chairman (Goyder), Mayor Leonie Kerley (Barunga West), Mayor Roslyn Talbot (Copper Coast), Mayor Bill O'Brien (Light), Mayor Mark Wasley (Adelaide Plains), Mayor Phillip Heaslip (Mount Remarkable), Mayor Denis Clark (Northern Areas), Mayor Kathie Bowman (Orroroo Carrieton), Mayor Rodney Reid (Wakefield), Mayor Peter Slattery (Flinders Ranges), Mayor Ruth Whittle OAM (Peterborough), Mayor Leon Stephens (Port Pirie) and Mayor Darren Braund (Yorke Peninsula).

In Attendance

Cr Brian Lockyer (Barunga West), Mr David Stevenson (CEO Goyder), Mr Colin Byles (CEO Northern Areas), Mr Dylan Strong (CEO Orroroo Carrieton), Mr Andrew MacDonald (CEO Wakefield), Mr James Miller (CEO Adelaide Plains), Mr Russell Peate (CEO Copper Coast), Mr Eric Brown (CEO Flinders Ranges), Mr Sam Johnson (CEO Mt Remarkable), Mr Andrew Cameron (CEO Yorke Peninsula), Dr Andrew Johnson (LGA), Kelly-Anne Saffin (CEO RDAYMN) and Mr Simon Millcock (CEO Legatus Group).

State MP's: Hon Geoff Brock MP Frome

Apologies

Mayor Wayne Thomas (Clare and Gilbert Valleys) and Mayor Bim Lange OAM (The Barossa). Council CEO's Ms Maree Wauchope (Barunga West), Mr Martin McCarthy (Barossa), Mr Brian Carr (Light), Mr Peter McGuinness (Peterborough), Mr Peter Ackland (Port Pirie) and Dr Helen Macdonald (Clare and Gilbert Valleys). MP's Hon Stephan Knoll Member for Schubert and Hon Dan van Holst Pellekaan Member for Stuart, Mr Fraser Ellis Member for Narrunga, Hon Tony Piccolo Member for Light. and Mr John Gee Member for Taylor. RDA CEO Ms Anne Moroney and Landscape Board Tony Fox.

1.1 Opening

The Chairman declared the meeting open at 10.29am

1.2 Welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2 Welcome Host Council

Mayor Peter Slattery welcomed everyone and provided an update on current progress by The Flinders Ranges Council. This included recent successful grant funding which has assisted with the two Town Hall upgrades. Support is being provided for the tourism industry via Warren Gorge upgrades for bush walking, Native Food Trail project for Quorn and the Quorn Silo Light Show. Noted the past year has been a difficult year due to impacts of drought and COVID-19 plus the transition across the Councils Senior Management. Mayor Slattery noted the appreciation of the work undertaken by the new CEO Eric Brown.

3 Confirmation of Previous Minutes

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held 5 June 2020 and Special Meetings 3 July 2020 and 14 August 2020.

Motion:

1. That the minutes of the Legatus Group Meeting held on 5 June 2020 be taken as read and confirmed.
2. That the minutes of the Legatus Group Meeting held on 3 July 2020 be taken as read and confirmed.
3. That the minutes of the Legatus Group Meeting held on 14 August 2020 be taken as read and confirmed.

Moved: Mayor Denis Clark Seconded: Mayor Rodney Reid

CARRIED

4 Presentations

4.1 Hon Geoff Brock MP Frome

- COVID-19 recovery will be a long journey and the need for support to the local economies. Recognition of the support from Federal and State Governments and the acknowledgement of the great work of the Legatus Group Councils.
- The need for wellbeing is paramount for the community as the drought and COVID-19 impacts are being felt across the region
- Re tourism there is a need for the region to showcase itself to Adelaide.
- Not supportive of Rating Capping.
- Concerns re the changes in Ministers for SA Parliament and the delays this will cause current projects. Strong supporter of Infrastructure re roads in the region.
- Will be meeting with Infrastructure SA and will provide information back to Councils through the Legatus Group CEO.

4.2 Claire Wiseman CEO Regional Development Australia (RDA) Far North

Claire provided an overview of RDA Far North and then spoke on two subjects:

- COVID-19
 - Support re one on one with businesses.
 - Advocacy for State and Federal Programs.
 - Some businesses have used this as an opportunity to review their business model and improve their systems.

- Tourism and retail have had significant negative impacts with the tourism industry just reopening and strong growth during the past month when compared to other years for the same time. Challenges with gaining employees – jobseeker has impacted especially due to the casual nature of the employment.
- Drought continues to be a major issue as the rain which occurred was spasmodic and insufficient.
- The investment pipeline is significant which has the potential to see an 18% increase in employment / population growth during construction.
- Flinders Ranges Region Update
 - Proactive Mayor and CEO who are positive and supportive.
 - Drought Funding and Radioactive Funding have helped support a number of community projects.

4.3 Kay Strong Regional Manager Northern SA AusIndustry

Kay introduced herself and the role she has with AusIndustry which includes:

- Business programs.
- Grant hub plus delivery of programs such as Building Better Regions Fund.
- Regional Managers role includes being able to funnel information back into Commonwealth Dept.

RDA Yorke Mid North (YMN) CEO Kelly-Anne Saffin attended the meeting and a report from RDA YMN will be distributed with the minutes.

5 Business arising not otherwise on the agenda

5.1 Drought

The Legatus Group CEO provided a report with the agenda and provided an update that the SA Community Wellbeing and Resilience Grant application was not successful, and progress is occurring with a report from Edge Consulting on possible Drought Future Fund Projects (noting that 2 of the programs which Councils could be involved with close on 25 Sept). General discussion centred on the continual support for the Wellbeing project instigated by the Northern Councils and being led by Dylan Strong. Consensus that Dylan Strong and Legatus Group CEO evaluate and provide report for November Legatus Group meeting unless special meeting required earlier.

Motion: That the Legatus Group

1. Notes the progress of the SA Water Smart Irrigation and the Space Down Under Stormwater Harvesting Projects.
2. Notes the report on Wellbeing and continues to support the commitment made at the November 2019 meeting.
3. Notes the report on the Drought Futures Fund and supports the partnership approach through the Yorke Mid North Alliance.

Moved: Mayor Ruth Whittle Seconded: Mayor Denis Clark

CARRIED

6 Chairman's Report

Chair Mayor Peter Matthey advised that he had attended all the required SAROC and LGA meetings on behalf of Legatus Group. Whilst also being active in the discussions by LGA Secretariat with

current and new Ministers on the issues of Rating Equity. Delays in the progress due to new Ministers is causing concern.

7 Items referred by Councils

7.1 Yorke Peninsula Council – Glare Visor (Street Light Shields) increased costs

The Yorke Peninsula Council spoke to a report they provided with the agenda. General discussion and Legatus Group CEO to contact other Regional Local Government Associations to see if any of their councils have similar issues.

7.2 Barossa Council – Strategic Plan and Reviews

The Barossa Council and Legatus Group CEO provided a report on recent correspondence relating to the Legatus Group Business and Strategic Plans. These matters had been included and discussed in the June, July and August 2020 Legatus Group meetings and agendas along with the Legatus Group Audit and Risk Management August 2020 agenda and meeting. General discussion with a consensus that there was no need for an external facilitator and the Legatus Group CEO indicated he would develop a survey to also include regional partners.

Motion:

1. That a Strategic Planning Workshop be held in conjunction with the Legatus Group November 2020 meeting.
2. That the Legatus Group CEO provides a report to the first Legatus Group meeting in 2021 outlining any recommended changes to the 2020/2021 Business Plan and Budget and to the Legatus Group Strategic Plan and Long Term Financial Plan including the outcomes of the review and any suggested refinements using feedback from a survey, dialogue with councils, committees and the workshop.

Moved: Mayor Denis Clark Seconded: Mayor Bill O'Brien

CARRIED

7.3 Northern Areas Council – RDA Yorke Mid North Subscriptions

The Northern Areas Council provided a letter with the agenda and the RDA Yorke Mid North Chair provided a letter to the Legatus Group Chair Mayor Peter Matthey which was read out to the meeting. General discussion was undertaken.

Motion: That the Legatus Group CEO writes on behalf of the Legatus Group member councils of RDA Yorke and Mid North to RDA Yorke and Mid North asking them to review the historical basis for its fee structure for its council members. It is also recommended that the review include how other regions fees are developed and that if there were to any agreed variations, they come into effect from the financial year 2021/2022.

Moved: Mayor Denis Clark Seconded: Mayor Phil Heaslip

CARRIED

8 20/21 Business Plan Project Updates

The Legatus Group CEO's report was provided with the agenda and the Legatus Group CEO provided the following updates:

- Coastal Management Action Plan - Funding is being finalised for 3 Yorke Peninsula and 1 Copper Coast Project with a possible allocation still of \$15,000 for another project or extension of current projects.
- Regional Coordinator roles being finalised following discussions with RDA's and likely to go to seek applications during September.
- Youth in Music workshops completed and available on Legatus Group website and scoping commenced for possible Youth led recovery Grant application which close in September.

The Chair invited questions.

Motion: That the Legatus Group notes the report.

Moved: Mayor Denis Clark

Seconded: Mayor Leon Stevens

CARRIED

9 Audit and Risk Management Committee

Mayor Kathie Bowman as Chair of the Committee provided a report which included the minutes of their meeting held 21 August 2020. The Legatus Group CEO advised that since the meeting the LGA have received the 2019-20 annual reports for the Regional Capacity Building Allocations, and the request for carry-overs to 2020-21. The LGR&DS Advisory Committee met on Friday 21 August 2020 and considered requests to carry over the funds which total for the Legatus Group around \$493,000 and this was approved at the meeting.

The LGR&DS Advisory Committee expressed concern about the large amount of funding, which is being carried over by some regional LGA's, and the repeated nature of these carry overs. The Committee recommended that the LGA Board of Directors:

- notes the large carryovers requested by multiple regional LGAs, including repeated carryovers by some regional LGAs; and*
- amend the reporting requirements for the Regional Capacity Building Allocations to include an interim report to be forwarded to the LGA by November 2020, which will be considered by the LGR&DS Advisory Committee at its 4 December 2020 meeting.*

The Regional Capacity Building Allocations for 2020-21 is \$42,151 (GST exclusive) and the conditions are as approved by the LGA Board of Directors 16 May 2019 (item 7.4). At this meeting, the LGA Board of Directors agreed to a recommendation from the LGR&DS Advisory Committee for the:

“...continuation for two more years (2019-20 and 2020-21) of base-level Regional Capacity-Building allocations, indexed to the Adelaide CPI, subject to the Committee's recommendations on usage of the allocations...”

Dr Andrew Johnson from the LGA provided further clarity.

Motion:

1. That Mayor Kathie Bowman is appointed Chair of the Audit and Risk Management Committee
2. That the Legatus Group undertake a review of its 2020/2021 Business Plan and Budget in November 2020 and that this includes a review of the Long Term Financial Plan.

3. That the Legatus Group encourages its members to invite the Legatus Group CEO to a council meeting or workshop during October – December 2020 to discuss the current business plan.
4. That the Legatus Group adopt the variation to item 5.1 of the Legatus Group Charter as set out in item 3.2 of the Legatus Group Audit and Risk Management Committee meeting held on 22 May 2020 and authorise the Legatus Group CEO to comply with the Local Government Act requirements to secure the variation to the charter.

Moved: Mayor Kathie Bowman Seconded: Mayor Leonie Kerley

CARRIED

10 Financial Report

The Legatus Group CEO provided a report with the agenda containing the July 2020 Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Summary reports and Legatus Group CEO's credit card payments for May 2020 – July 2020.

Motion:

1. That the Legatus Group notes the balance sheet and profit and loss report for the period 1 July – 31 July 2020.
2. That the Legatus Group notes the CEOs credit card expenditure report for the period 1 May – 31 July 2020.

Moved: Mayor Roslyn Talbot Seconded: Mayor Rodney Reid

CARRIED

11 Legatus Group Regional Management Group

Mr Colin Byles Chair of the committee provided a report with the agenda that included the notes of their meeting on 14 August 2020.

Motion: That the Legatus Group notes the report.

Moved: Mayor Mark Wasley Seconded: Mayor Denis Clark

CARRIED

12 Legatus Road and Transport Infrastructure Advisory Committee

Dr Helen Macdonald the Chair of the committee provided a report with the agenda which contained the notes of the Legatus Group Legatus Road and Transport Infrastructure Advisory Committee meeting held 7 August 2020. General discussion included the need for data to be gathered on the bridges across the region.

Motion:

- 1 That the Legatus Group notes the report and supports the collaborative approach with the RDAs for a Regional Roads Coordination role.
- 2 That the Legatus Group Road and Transport Infrastructure Advisory Committee provide a report to the Legatus Group on Bridges within the Legatus Group Region.

Moved: Mayor Denis Clark Seconded: Mayor Phillip Heaslip

CARRIED

13 Legatus Group CWMS Advisory Committee

Andrew MacDonald Chair of the Committee provided a report which included the minutes of their meetings held on 12 August 2020.

Motion: That the Legatus Group notes the report and supports an approach to LGA Mutual to be involved with a CWMS Risk Workshop for Legatus Group Councils.

Moved: Mayor Rodney Reid Seconded: Mayor Roslyn Talbot

CARRIED

14 Legatus Group Visitor Information Services Advisory Committee

The Legatus Group CEO provided a report with the agenda which included the minutes of their meeting on 14 August 2020.

Motion: The Legatus Group notes the report.

Moved: Mayor Denis Clark Seconded: Mayor Darren Braund

CARRIED

15 Local Government Association and SAROC

15.1 LGA Update

Dr Andrew Johnson spoke on:

- Election process has commenced for the LGA Board and President.
- AGM now a 1 day event and only one delegate able to attend but other can attend on-line.
- Local Govt reform and planning changes in discussion with new Minister.
- Youth led- recovery grants.
- Council Ready program.
- Heavy Vehicle Access new position at LGA has commenced.
- Library Funding Agreements.
- COVID-18 Functional Support Group.

15.2 Rating Equity

A copy of the letter from the LGA President Mayor Sam Telfer to Minister Dan van Holst Pellekaan MP was provided with the agenda.

Motion: That the Legatus Group writes to both Ministers Dan van Holst Pellekaan and Vicki Chapman to confirm its support for the approach by the LGA on this matter.

Moved: Mayor Peter Slattery Seconded: Mayor Phillip Heaslip

CARRIED

15.3 SAROC Key Outcomes

The meeting noted the report from the SAROC Committee – Key Outcomes Summary meeting 22 July 2020.

16 Other Business

16.1 Climate Change Sector Agreement

The Legatus Group CEO provided a report with the agenda on the final report for the current Sector Agreement and the progress on a new Sector Agreement. Mayor Heaslip advised he was a member of the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board.

Motion:

1. That the Legatus Group Chair is authorised to sign the new Climate Change Sector Agreement on behalf of the Legatus Group when it is finalised.
2. That the Legatus Group CEO is approved to continue to provide administrative support for the reporting requirements of a new Climate Change Sector Agreement.

Moved: Mayor Rodney Reid Seconded: Mayor Leon Stevens

CARRIED

16.2 Murray Darling Association Region 8

Cr Brian Lockyer provided an update on the forthcoming MDA AGM and Conference and the Legatus Group CEO distributed a Healthy Rivers pocket guide to water for the environment. The next region 8 meeting is to be held on Friday 25 September 2020.

17 CEO's leave and conflict of interest

The Legatus Group Chair provided a report with the agenda on approval of CEO's leave 17-21 September.

Motion: That the Legatus Group notes the report.

Moved: Mayor Denis Clark Seconded: Mayor Kathie Bowman

CARRIED

18 NEXT MEETING

To be hosted by the Yorke Peninsula Council and start at 10am to allow for the Strategic Plan workshop.

19 CLOSE

Meeting closed by the Chair at 12.47 pm

Chairman _____ Dated _____